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Nebraska Teachers Earn National Certification in Personal Finance

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Wayne State College rolled out the red carpet for 44 secondary and postsecondary teachers attending the Personal Finance Institute July 20-22. The goal of the Institute is to better prepare educators who teach personal finance. Participants earned college graduate credit for their work in developing or revising an existing Personal Finance course syllabus for implementation at their high school or community college as well as taking the national financial literacy certification exam. In addition to intense classroom instruction, participants heard from guest financial speakers and experienced successful local entrepreneurial endeavors as they toured Heritage Industries, Concord Components, and Sand Creek Post and Beam Manufacturing.

Teachers attending received graduate credit from either the University of NE-Lincoln or Wayne State College. Tammie Fischer (UNL) and Patricia Arneson (WSC) joined Sherry Roberts from Middle Tennessee State and Mike Casey from the University of Central Arkansas as Institute instructors. At the conclusion of the Institute all of the teachers successfully completed the nationally recognized Financial Literacy Certification Exam entitled W!SE (Working in Support of Education).

Sponsors that made the Institute possible included Partnerships for Innovation, Federal Reserve Bank, Nebraska Council on Economic Education, Centris Federal Credit Union, Financial Planning Association of Nebraska, Metropolitan Community College's Financial Planning Program, Pearson Publishing and the Nebraska Department of Education. W!SE (Working In Support of Education) donated 250 free student W!SE certification exams valued at \$2,500 to be utilized by 12 different schools during the coming school year.

For more information, list of participants and resources on the Personal Finance Institute please visit <http://www.education.ne.gov/BMIT/Curriculum/PFI.html>.